

Appl. No. 09/629,170  
Amdt. dated February 5, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of November 25, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please cancel claims 11 and 12 without prejudice. Please amend claims 1, 4, 6, 9, and 10 as follows:

1. (currently amended): A computer implemented method for evaluating the performance of a cashier operating a point of sale (POS) station ~~of storing a retail performance metric record, the retail performance metric record being a function of a retail performance metric type and a retail performance metric including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input, comprising the steps of:~~

BI receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at a point of sale (the POS) station during a transaction, wherein the event occurring at the POS station is a scan operation, a weighing operation, a key operation, or a tender operation;

recording an entry record in response to the input received, the entry record including a time stamp;

determining ~~the~~ a retail performance metric and a retail performance metric type ~~of based on the input received at the POS station during the transaction;~~

~~recording an entry record indicative of the input received;~~

recording a retail performance metric record including the retail performance metric and the retail performance metric type during a transaction, the retail performance metric including

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the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input; and

associating the retail performance metric record with the entry record;

repeating the steps of receiving an input, determining a retail performance metric,  
~~recording the entry record, and~~ recording the retail performance metric record for another  
plurality of events during the transaction, and associating the retail performance metric record  
with the entry record; and

storing the retail performance metric records associated with the entry record for  
utilization in evaluating the performance of the cashier operating the POS station.

2. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the entry record includes an entry  
identifier field and the recording the retail performance metric record step comprises adding the  
entry identifier field value of the entry record associated with the retail performance metric to the  
retail performance metric record.

3. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the retail performance metric record  
comprises an entry identifier field, a type field, and a time field.

4. (currently amended): A computer implemented method for evaluating the  
performance of a hardware component connected to a point of sale (POS) station~~of storing a~~  
~~retail performance metric record, the retail performance metric record being a function of a time-~~  
~~type category and a retail performance metric including the time elapsed waiting for and~~  
~~receiving an input~~, comprising the steps of:

receiving an input indicative of an event occurring the operation of the hardware  
component at a point of sale (the POS) station during a transaction;

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recording an entry record in response to the input received, the entry record including a time stamp;

determining the time type category of the input received at the POS station during the transaction related to the operation of the hardware component;

determining a retail performance metric, the retail performance metric being a function of the time type category and including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input;

associating the retail performance metric record with the entry record;

recording a retail performance metric record including the retail performance metric and the time type category, the retail performance metric including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input; and

B1 repeating the steps of receiving an input, determining a time type category, determining a retail performance metric, associating the retail performance metric with the entry record and recording for a plurality of events during the transaction the retail performance metric; and storing the retail performance records associated with the entry record for utilization in evaluating the performance of the hardware component.

5. (original): The method of claim 4, wherein the time type category includes a time type category identifier field and the recording the retail performance metric record step comprises adding the time type category identifier field value corresponding to the determined time type category of the entry record to the retail performance metric record.

6. (currently amended): A computer implemented system for evaluating the performance of a cashier operating a point of sale (POS) ~~storing a retail performance metric record, the retail~~

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~~performance metric record being a function of the retail performance metric type and a retail performance metric including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an input, comprising:~~

a processor for receiving and transmitting data; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory having stored therein sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

~~to receive~~ing input indicative of an event occurring at a ~~the~~point of sale (POS)

~~station during a transaction wherein the event occurring at the POS station is a scan operation, a weighing operation, a key operation, or a tender operation;~~

recording an entry record in response to the input received, the entry record including a time stamp;

determine~~ing the~~a retail performance metric (RPM) and a retail performance metric type of~~based on~~ the input received at the POS station ~~during the transaction, record an entry record indicative of the input received;~~

recording a retail performance metric record including the retail performance metric and the retail performance metric type during a transaction, wherein the retail performance metric including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input;

associating the RPM record with the entry record; and repeat the steps of  
~~receiving, determining, recording the entry record, and recording the retail performance metric record for a plurality of events during the transaction~~

repeating the sequences of instructions of receiving an input, determining a RPM record, and associating the RPM record with the entry record to evaluate the performance of the

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cashier operating the POS station; and

storing the retail performance metric records associated with the entry record for  
utilization in evaluating the performance of the cashier operating the POS.

7. (original): The system of claim 6 wherein the memory further includes sequences of instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to record the entry record including an entry identifier field and to record the retail performance metric record by adding the entry identifier field value of the entry record associated with the retail performance metric to the retail performance metric record.

8. (original): The system of claim 6 wherein the retail performance metric record comprises an entry identifier field, a type field, and a time field.

B1 9. (currently amended): A computer implemented system for ~~storing a retail-~~  
~~performance metric record~~ evaluating the performance of a hardware component connected to a  
point of sale (POS) station, ~~the retail performance metric record being a function of a time type-~~  
~~category and a retail performance metric including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving an~~  
~~input,~~ comprising:

a processor for receiving and transmitting data; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory having stored therein sequences of instructions ~~and time type categories~~ which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the steps of:

to receive ~~ing~~ input indicative of ~~an event occurring~~ the operation of the hardware  
component at a point of sale (POS) station ~~during a transaction;~~

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recording an entry record in response to the input received, the entry record includes a time stamp;

determining the time type category of the input received at the POS station- during the transaction and a retail performance metric (RPM) wherein the retail performance metric being a function of the time type category and including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input;

associating the RPM record with the entry record;

recording a retail performance metric record including the retail performance metric and the time type category, wherein the retail performance metric including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input; and repeating the steps of receiving, determining, and recording for a plurality of events during the transaction

repeating the sequences of instructions for receiving an input, determining a time type category, and associating a retail performance record with the entry record; and storing the retail performance records associated with the entry record for utilization in evaluating the performance of the hardware component connected to the POS station.

10. (currently amended): The system of claim 9 wherein the time type category includes a type category identifier field, wherein the memory further includes sequences of instructions and time type categories including time a type category identifier field which, when the sequences of instructions are executed by the processor, cause the processor to record the retail performance metric record by adding at the time type category identifier field value associated

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with the time type category of the input received to the retail performance metric record.

11. (canceled)

12. (canceled)

B1 13. (original): The method of claim 3, wherein the type field comprises an RPM type and/or a time type category.

14. (original): The system of claim 8, wherein the type field comprises an RPM type and/or a time type category.

Please add new claims as follows:

15. (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the entry record and the retail performance metric record are written to the same transaction log.

16. (new): A computer-readable medium whose contents cause a computer system to evaluate the performance of a cashier operating a point of sale (POS) terminal by performing the steps of:

B2 receiving an input indicative of an event occurring at a POS station, wherein the event occurring at the POS station is a scan operation, a weighing operation, a key operation, or a tender operation;

recording an entry record in response to the input received, the entry record including a time stamp;

determining a retail performance metric and a retail performance metric type based on the input received at the POS station;

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recording a retail performance metric record including the retail performance metric and the retail performance metric type during a transaction, the retail performance metric including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input;

associating the retail performance metric record with the entry record;

repeating the steps of receiving an input, determining a retail performance metric, recording a retail performance metric record, and associating the retail performance metric record with the entry record; and

storing the retail performance records associated with the entry record for utilization in evaluating the performance of the cashier operating the POS station.

17. (new): The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the entry record and the retail performance metric record are written to the same transaction log.

B2 18. (new): The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the entry record includes an entry identifier field and the recording the retail performance metric record step comprises adding the entry identifier field value of the entry record associated with the retail performance metric to the retail performance metric record.

19. (new): The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the retail performance metric record comprises an entry identifier field, a type field, and a time field.

20. (new): A computer-readable medium whose contents cause a computer system to evaluate the performance of a hardware component connected to a point of sale (POS) terminal by performing the steps of:

receiving an input indicative of the operation of the hardware component at a point of sale



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(POS) station;

recording an entry record in response to the input received, the entry record including a time stamp;

determining a time type category of the input received at the POS station;

determining a retail performance metric, the retail performance metric being a function of the time type category and including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input;

associating the retail performance metric record with the entry record;

recording a retail performance metric record including the retail performance metric and the time type category, the retail performance metric including the time elapsed waiting for and receiving the input;

repeating the steps of receiving an input, determining a time type category, determining a retail performance metric, associating the retail performance metric with the entry record and recording a retail performance metric record; and

storing the retail performance metric records associated with the entry record for utilization in evaluating the performance of the hardware component.

21. (new): The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the time type category includes a time type category identifier field and recording the retail performance metric record step comprises adding the time type category identifier field value corresponding to the determined time type category of the entry record to the retail performance metric record.

22. (new): The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the entry record and the retail performance metric record are written to the same transaction log.